SOUTH VIET NAM In Struggle

CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION

5th Year
No
119
October 25
1971

ADDRESS:

MT 1217 B-SVN

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editorial

Hazardous Paths Leading Nixon to Disaster

MR Nixon has been preening his dove's plumes for next year's presidential election. He has been resorting to two main expedients to this effect: devious diplomatic moves and emergency economic measures.

He has been trying to sell what he calls the "Nixon era" or the "era of negotiation" to induce the public to believe that he has been taking steps in diplomacy to bring to an end the Viet Nam and Indochina war, pull out all American boys from there and settle the POW issue... All is grist that comes to his mill, leaning on this country to apply pressure on that one, sowing division and taking advantage of any breach in the relations between nations to step up psywar and drive home to the world his concern about stamping out the Asian and Mideast hotbeds of war.

At home, after his new economic measures, he has announced the second stage of the process, in which the Prices and Wages Committees are to be set up. But, as everyone has seen, however drastic his remedies may be, they are only palliatives. For all these, US economy continues to struggle in the throes of a protracted crisis, the dollar to depreciate, inflation to run wild and unemployment to worsen.

HAS Mr Nixon been really seeking with such methods a way out of the inglorious war so costly in human lives and resources, a way out of the current confusion and erosion of US society? He has been seeking a way out for the war, for the so-called "Vietnamization" strategy, and not of the war nor of the present US political and economic predicament.

It is obvious to all that the root cause of all the calamities of the three Indochinese peoples and one of the main sources of the turmoil in US society lies in Nixon's policy of aggression in Viet Nam and Indochina. Not only has it been dumping bombs, bullets and chemical poisons on our peninsula but it has also been robbing American families of their sons, husbands and brothers and of their daily bread. It is therefore equally obvious that the radical remedy is to wind up the aggressive war, withdraw all US troops, cease support to the trigger-happy Thieu rule, the pliant tool of "Vietnamization." But the US Chief Executive has set his face against such a simple but efficacious solution, refusing to fix a deadline for a total and rapid retirement of the GI's, going on with impressing in South Viet Nam and beefing up his client army under "Vietnamization." The recent face-lifting travesties of democracy have thrown a lurid light on his sinister intention to step up and drag out the war in Viet Nam and Indochina with less political and economic hindrances and continue the implementation of US neo-colonialism in South Viet Nam with a fig leaf on US nature as an aggressor.

BUT to get rid of the troubles generated by the war by prolonging and intensifying it, to strive after a military decision in a losing position is mere wishful thinking. Hawks will be hawks, even in "Vietnamization" or "Indo-sinicization" plumes. Wolves will be wolves even in sheep's clothing, even if they pull in their fangs, to make them look shorter. Mr Nixon will be an aggressor, a representative of US imperialism, a neo-fascist, the enemy number one of the Vietnamese, Indochinese and world peoples, despite all his peace professions and sprucing up of his dove's plumes.

Persisting in an aggressive war is like going further into a blind alley. No policy maker, no brain truster can devise a plan for Mr Nixon to win the war of aggression against Viet Nam and Indochina. No political jugglery can conjure away the difficulties now plaguing the US as a result of the aggression. The only escape has been indicated by the Provisional Revolutionary Government of the Republic of South Viet Nam in its seven points. It will help remove one of the basic origins of inflation, joblessness, political and social trepidation in the US Cessation of the aggression, repatriation of all GI's from South Viet Nam, dumping the Thieu gang of fire-eaters will impel the Paris conference toward a negotiated settlement of the South Viet Nam issue. It was no accident that in the midst of Mr Nixon's preparations for his foreign tour, US public opinion urged him to take the road to Paris.

BUT the US President refuses to listen to his people. He is trying other short cuts which will surely land him in fresh adventures and more humiliating setbacks in Indochina, the US and the world.

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At Nuremberg 25 years ago

From Hitler ... to Nixon

25 years ago, on October 1, 1946, at Nuremberg, a small and old Germany city, a trial unprecedented in history brought in its last verdict : The chiefs of the 3rd Reich, from Goering, the number 2 of the regime, to Martin Bormann, Secretary and a trusted man of Hitler, including Von Ribbentrop, Keitel, Von Papen, Jodl... were all convicted as major war criminals and sentenced to death. Two weeks later, on the night of October 16, 1946, they were hanged. Their corpses later brought to Munich were incinerated and their ashes thrown in the wind. 7 other war criminals, Rudolf Hess, Walter Funk, Karl Doenitz, Erich Raeder, Baldur von Schirach, Albert Speer and Konstantin von Neurath had to serve time in Spandau, a dark fort in West Berlin. Such was the lot of those monsters who had caused indescribable sufferings to the world peoples.

THE CRIMES

As said in the verdict, the Nazis were found guilty of the crimes against peace for having planned, prepared, initiated and unleashed wars of aggression which broke at the same time international agreements, and guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity.

The gravest charges against them were those of having conceived and started wars of aggression. To wage an aggressive war, as the indictment said, was not only an international crime but also the supreme international crime which differed from others war crimes in the sense that it included all of them.

The aggressive wars waged by the Nazi government were no "accidents" which stemmed from the political situation in Europe and the world, but a well-defined policy. At the start, the National-Socialist Party proclaimed as its objectives : a united German people, a "superior race" under Fuehrer's guidance to rule over the world. This racist conception was but pure demagogy, for the Nazis chiefs had not at all at heart the genuine interests of the German people whom they were to lead to ruin, and it made aggressive wars unavoidable.

In the implementation of their "ideology," the Nazis were carried away and came to plunge Europe into the same state of dislocation after the "Versailles Treaty," and create a "Greater Germany" whose frontiers went beyond those of 1914. This implied necessarily the annexation of other countries. Then took place the invasion of Austria, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Denmark, Norway, Belgium, Holland, Luxemburg, Yugoslavia, Greece, USSR... and in those aggressions, the Hitlerite army piled up war crimes against humanity. Lidice, Auschwitz, Buchenwald, gas rooms, crematories, mobile mills to grind human bones, soaps made of human fat, lamp-shades of human skin artistically tattooed...all these brought on the Hitlerite monsters eternal curses. At least twelve million people were disposed of in concentration camps or other mass-extermination centres, not including tens of millions of dead, tens of millions of wounded and innumerable material damage.

THE LESSONS OF NUREMBERG

The Nuremberg trial, which embodied the feeling of the peoples throughout the world, laid a legal foundation which governed international relations with the principles called "Nuremberg principles" which regarded as international crimes the crimes against peace, war crimes and against humanity. By the same principles "whoever commits an offence against international law must bear responsibility for it and be liable to punishment," and "if internal juridiction does not punish an international crime, this circumstance does not relieve the offender of his responsibility" and "if the crime has been committed by a person acting in his capacity as chief of State or civil servant, this circumstance does not exempt him from international responsibility."

Thus as criminals, the Nazis chiefs received welldeserved punishment. But while punishing the criminals, the Nuremberg Tribunal at the same time revealed all the evils of the regime to the world. This was a warning to all aggressors as well as to all the peoples in the world. It reminded the former that all the aggressors would be punished, and the latter that vigilance should never be slackened against war fomenters.

But, hardly a quarter of a century after the famous Nuremberg verdict, the world peoples are still witnessing similar monstrous crimes, and the murderers are provided with improved and much more lethal instruments, and massacres against a people are systematically committed in their so-called own interest.

REAL RIVALS OF THE NAZIS

This time, the roles are somewhat reverted. The US representatives were among the judges of the Nuremberg Tribunal, besides: those of France, Great Britain and the USSR. Up to now, four US presidents from Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson to Nixon have been trying to justify the US adventure in Viet Nam. But facts have been there to give them the lie.

If the Nazis rested their aggressive policy on the concept of a "Greater Germany" for a "select people," the US since the early 50's has been brandishing before the Americans "threat of communism" to plead for its intervention in Viet Nam. In fact, according to the Pentagon secret documents, the US Security Council made clear in 1952 "the US objectives and the actions to be taken in South East Asia," which objectives were none other than to "prevent the South-East Asian countries from falling under "communist domination," for such a rule over South-East Asia, achieved by whatever means, would to a threat to US security." And to guarantee US security, successive US administrations have replaced the French in the first Indochina war, then ousted them and waged their own war of aggression, first by proxy- "special war,"—then a real war of aggression — "local war," — with massive participation of an expeditionary corps, first an American war and then a "Vietnamized," which is likely to last long even after the withdrawal of part of the American forces, for it now is an "indigenous" army who makes war on US behalf.

The war so waged for over ten years in Viet Nam by an US expeditionary corps on a foreign territory has been entirely a war of aggression in the full acceptation of the word, in flagrant violation of norms of international law as prescribed in the Nuremberg principles. It was even unconstitutional in the eyes of the American people for it has never been sanctioned by Congress. And it is one of the most atrocious wars ever in history.

For the last 10 years, according to US reports, more than 10 million tons of bombs and explosives have been dropped on Viet Nam, equalling 500 Hiroshima bombs. The most sophisticated arms have been used, from 7-ton bombs to "gravel" mines of some 20 grams, from incendiary bombs—napalm, phosphorous, thermite—to steel-pellet bombs. Carpet bombings which have indiscriminately levelled vast areas have become a routine for B-52's, known as strategic aircraft conceived to carry A-bombs in a nuclear war against the USSR. The bombings and shellings have given the South Viet Nam countryside the look of the lunar scenery with innumerable craters.

Moreover since 1961, a most devastating chemical war has been ravaging with "defoliants" South Viet Nam's fauna and flora and seriously threatening the people, killing them instantly, or intoxicating or engendering congenit al malformations in babies. In this respect, the US aggressors have bettered Hitler. The Nazis used gas against the detainees in concentration camps, but they dared not use such large doses of chemical products against the civilian population. In South Viet Nam, such substances as herbicides and toxic gases have been sprayed in large quantities on all the territory, even at the gate of Saigon. The far-reaching effects of this chemical war are incalculable, and already men of sciences the world over, including American scientists, have agreed that the US aggressors have been committing genocide in Viet Nam.

THE MAIN TARGET : THE VIETNAMESE MAN

Up to now, one of the favorite themes used by American officials to justify their aggressive war is the defence of the freedom of the South Vietnamese people against aggression from the North. Different strategies and tactics have been deployed to "win the hearts" of the civilian population and eliminate "Viet-Congs." But as the war drags on and prospects for a military victory are gloomier, the US resorts to most atrocious and savage means which, in the last analysis, make the Vietnamese man the objective for destruction. In other words, the GIs have been there to murder Vietnamese for the sake of the Vietnamese. This is an absurdity which has become transparent and has been acknowledged by the GIs themselves. To face a people's war in which an entire people have risen up for their fundamental national rights, troops of the expeditionary corps have soon realized that they are surrounded by enemies, invisible but omnipresent enemies who may strike at any time. So much so that the Americans who came as "liberators" have simply turned murderers : they kill because of fear, of hatred and not to be killed. Only after a short time in Viet Nam, all GIs have lost the illusion on the "defended" people. They have seen only hatred in all Vietnamese eyes. There, the GIs kill with the hope of getting out of their adventure which has lost all its significance. Such was partly the genesis of Son My. "We are all Calleys," said a veteran back from Viet Nam. This opinion has been shared by many other veterans. This is the tragedy of the GIs, now victims of their government's policies, like Werhmacht's soldiery was of the Nazi chiefs' policies.

Unlike the Nazis who did not deny the atrocities committed by German troops in occupied territories during World War II, the American officials have always denied US atrocities in Viet Nam. But when the truth becomes clear as daylight like in the Son My case, they are cowardly enough to lay the blame on others, making these their scape-goats, charging these with the crimes of which they are the real instigators.

The situation in South-East Asia, far from improving has grown worse as one can see. To "Vietnamize" the Viet Nam war, the US has expanded the war to Cambodia and invade Laos. From Viet Nam, the war now has been extended to the whole of Indochina, and the US intends to carry it on by means of native forces with its own financial and logistic aid. The neo colonialist objectives remain unchanged, only the methods to attain them vary, and their crimes continue piling up.

US troops watchword at front of US Bien Hoa barrack

FOR their crimes against peace, war crimes and crimes against humanity, the Nazis were arraigned by the world peoples and eventually hanged. The US criminals who have been perpetrating the same crimes, cannot escape the peoples' justice. Various international tribunals, from the Bertrand Russell International Tribunal in 1967 have condemned the US imperialists and expressed support for the Vietnamese people's cause. A new vibrant voice has just been raised by the International Conference of Lawyers held in Moscow from October 11 to 13, 1971. Despite their obstinacy, there is every sign that justice will triumph over the US imperialists' sinister forces.

HO MAI

THE ANTI "MILITARIZATION OF SCHOOLS" DRIVE ON THE UPSWING

ALONG with the movement for welfare, democracy, better living conditions, for US troop pull-out, against election frauds... of various sections of the South Vietnamese people, the students' actions against US-Thieu "militarization of schools" have been gaining momentum in all universities of Saigon and other cities of South Viet Nam.

Parades, meetings, fasts, head shavings, refusal to join military training centres, have been repeatedly staged in which the participants have been strongly denouncing Thieu's "militarization of schools" as a scheme to turn them into cannon-fodder for the US under Nixon's "Vietnamization" program.

Immediately after Thieu's decision to "militarize schools," students of all universities in Saigon, Hue and Can Tho took to the streets to demand its cancellation. Braving savage repression by the police, representatives of students in Saigon held teach-ins against the preparatory training of reserve officers right at the Saigon Teachers' College.

In disregard of the students' opposition, the Thieu clique abducted hundreds of them to the Quang Trung centre. Such a fascist measure aroused strong indignation among the students and their parents and even university professors. A deputation of Saigon students was immediately sent to the "Senate" to press for the abolition of the "militarization of schools" program. The protesters condemned the preparatory training of reserve officers" as fully unlawful and a scheme to turn students into military. They declared that as their deferment was not a "favour" but a duty, the students were resolved to fight to a finish. They called on those students who had not yet been taken to the military training camp to resolutely refuse to join it, and those who had gone there to try to get out of it and help others to do the same, and not let the Thieu clique misuse their blood to serve the foreigners' interests."

In response to the appeal of the inter-universities' representative, students in Saigon have been stepping up their protest. Students at the medical and pharmaceutical faculties, the college of sciences, the technical high school again swung into action and hundreds of them held an indefinite hunger-strike. 400 students at the National Agriculture Centre convened on September 19 a protest teach-in, attended by professors. All the participants decided not to join the Quang Trung military centre and to launch a 24-hour protest fast. They also decided to attack the Saigon nerve organs in charge of implementing the militarization order. The session wound up with a burning of uniforms which Thieu had distributed to them.

The actions had a far-reaching impact on other universities and colleges. On September 20, over 100 representatives of 7,000 science students held a ceremony to "tear up exam papers and boycott classes" in protest against the "militarization" program and the October 3 election. In the meantime, students at Van Hanh University staged a parade, carrying posters and banners scoring the scheme. The marchers used bottles of jellied petrol and sticks in clashes with the police agents deployed against them.

On the same day, over 100 students of the Saigon College of Agriculture also called a protest teach-in. According to a report by the head of the students' representation, over 90% of students of the said college stayed at home and disobeyed Thieu's order to join the Quang Trung camp. A number of students who had left the centre put up in Saigon an exhibition of uniforms with anti-militarization inscriptions on them.

For their part, students at the Saigon Teachers' College also gave a press conference right in their school where many of the students' representatives declared that willy-nilly the students would have to rise up and called on students of other universities throughout South Viet Nam to unite closely and act energetically for the immediate abolition of the "militarization of schools" programme, an end to retaliatory measures and prompt release of hundreds of students and pupils still detained. At Ben Thanh market (Saigon), hundreds of students' open letters were distributed, urged armymen and police in Saigon to become aware of their shameful life and join the people in resisting US Thieu. The General Federation of Catholic Students embracing the Federations of Catholic Students in Hue, Dalat, Saigon and Can Tho, at a congress in Lai Thieu from September 16 to 20 rejected the "militarization" program as "deprived of any legal basis, as generating mounting discontent among the students and as likely to meet with opposition." The gathering exposed Thieu's crimes against students and pupils since his advent to power, and denounced that he had been violating university autonomy, challenging the students' honour, freedom and democracy.

In co-ordination with their mates' agitation throughout South Viet Nam, thousands of students forced to undergo military training at Quang Trung camp also came out against the "militarization of schools" and strongly protested against the school harsh regime which inflicted many casualties right during the drill... On September 19, all students of the Phan Thanh Gian Battalion, Detachment B. at the centre boycotted the drill and held a teach-in right on the training ground. They stuck on their uniforms, blankets or mosquito-nets such slogans as: "Militarization of schools is the grave-yard for students", "Sent us back to school"...

Students of the Saigon Teachers' College, the Phu Tho Technical Middle School, the Hoa Hao High Education Institute, took off all their uniforms and set fire to them right in their barracks. Meanwhile, 20 of them staged a hunger strike and many others shaved their heads in protest. After a teach-in numerous students paraded right in the camp. Those students who were to be forced into the Quang Trung camp founded a Committee for Action against Militarization of Schools. The latter exposed in a statement Thieu's scheming to turn students into mercenaries in service of US aggressive war and voiced full support for their dissentient mates in Saigon — Van Hanh — Hue — Can Tho universities.

Under the impact of the students' turmoil, the colonel commander of the Quang Trung camp had to visit the centre and promise to meet their claims.

The protesters have enlisted approval and support from various mass organizations and other sections of the peoples in Saigon, Hue... including professors, students' relatives and even MPs.

The movement has seen an upsurge especially after the death of students Tran Huu Quang (Sept. 3), Pham Hanh (Aug. 27) and Nguyen Thanh Xuan (Aug. 30), victims of the militarization of schools" regime. Their funerals were in fact anti-US-Thieu demonstrations, during which the participants carried black banners or posters with white inscriptions: "No to militarization of schools", "Bunker go home", "Down with dictatorial and blood-thirsty Nguyen Van Thieu"... On the same occasion, Huynh Tan Mam, President of the General Association of Saigon students, held a press conference to denounce Thieu as responsible for the death of students at Quang Trung camp and demand the immediate cancellation of the fascist project.

REPRESENTATIVES of the Saigon Hue, Dalat, Van Hanh and Can Tho universities recently met and decided to broaden their actions' scale.

The Movement for Women's Right to Live also published a statement urging the scrapping of the scheme and an end to the aggressive war, so that the youths, students and pupils may concentrate their efforts on the building of the country. It earnestly called on all mothers and sisters to actively struggle so that their dear ones would not be turned into food for powder for the US and nor risk their life and health at Quang Trung camp.

At a press conference on September 20, Reverend Thich Thien Hoa, Head of the Hoa Dao Institute, castigated Thieu's bloody repression of students and pupils. He stated that "the present administration is being moulded upon the pattern of the Ngo Dinh Diem regime."

The "militarization of schools" is a pressganging manoeuvre of the Thieu clique to implement their scheme of beefing up the Saigon army under US "Vietnamization." Therefore the students' resistance against it is a further blow at the latter, after the people's ebullient drive against the recent fraudulent elections.

Students' agitation against US-Thieu "militarization of schools"

IN THE CITIES

• *In a declaration on October 9, the Catholic Students' Committee against the quisling Administration called on everyone, especially the Catholic youths and university and middle-school students to "wage a protracted fight to overthrow the quisling Nguyen Van Thieu, traitors to the nation." Students under the Committee's leadership set fire to 2 US military vehicles in Saigon streets.*

• *On October 11, students of the Literature and Pedagogy Faculties in Saigon boycotted their exams in protest against militarization of schools and the October 3 election farce. Anti-US and anti-Thieu demonstrations erupted the same day near American Ambassador Bunker's residence. The day after, students of the Medicine and Science Faculties and Van Hanh (Buddhist) University also stayed away from exams for the same reason.*

• *Thieu's police shot to death war wounded soldier Nguyen Ngoc Tan of the Saigon army on October 3. Tan led an ebullient demonstration of war disabled in Da Nang on "presidential election" day a week earlier.*

• *In a letter to the Cao Dai community, the Cao Dai Committee for the Consolidation of Peaceful Coexistence, Tay Ninh sect, surveyed the crimes perpetrated by the US and successive Saigon administrations. Since 1955, over a hundred thousand of its dignitaries and rank-and-file co-believers had been arrested and tortured or deported. The organization exhorted all Caodaists to oppose by means of practical actions the US aggressors and their topmost henchman Nguyen Van Thieu, and contribute to the formation of a government of national concord with a view to an end to the war, democratic freedoms and better living conditions.*

• *At a press conference Reverend Thich Huyen Quang, Secretary General of the Buddhist Institute, said that the Saigon Buddhist community "altogether rejected the returns of the undemocratic election" held on October 3. He also strongly stigmatized Ambassador Bunker's joining hands with Thieu in repressing opposition political parties and mass organizations, and cracking down on popular demonstrations at Qui Nhon, Da Nang, Long Khanh and other towns on election day.*

• *A number of Saigon senators dismissed the "presidential election" returns as invalid. They are taking concerted action to set up a Special Committee to "investigate into frauds" intended to keep Thieu in power for another term.*

• *On October 8 the Thieu clique seized 8 daily papers and suspended the activities of two Saigon news agencies which had bared their election tricks. In all, 31 papers had been confiscated since October 3.*

• *The Saigon Press Council protested against the arrest, ill-treatment and victimization of journalists by the Thieu administration as they performed their professional duty. The Council warned that it would take appropriate action should such persecution continue.*

"VIETNAMIZATION" IS DOOMED TO FAILURE

To help Readers in their study of the failure of the US "Vietnamization" strategy, we reproduce the following analysis by **Cuu Long** *which is titled "Vietnamization" is doomed to failure."*

The analysis falls into five parts under the following subtitles:

I.— Strategic defeat of US "Vietnamization" strategy in the 1970-1971 dry season.

II.— The 1970-1971 dry season victory and its significance for the Viet Nam Revolution.

III.— "Vietnamization"—a vicious circle, an obsolete, stalemated strategy.

IV.— Blows fall thick "Vietnamization" strategy repeatedly worsted.

V.— The Vietnamese people have the necessary determination and conditions to inflict total defeat on US imperialism's "Vietnamization" strategy — ED.

NIXON entered the White House at the moment when the more than half a million US troops were losing thewar. L.B. Johnson was seeking to de-escalate the war after having pushed hundreds of thousands of American youths to Viet Nam to fall on the battlefield or only to come home with their maimed bodies and their disenchanted minds haunted by the horror of the war into which they had been cheated. The beating taken by the US began to tell. The consequences of the humiliating bankruptcy in Viet Nam of the US policy of strength in its bid to world hegemony were taking the US to a explosive, serious, all-round crisis on all the military, political, economic, financial and social fields. Nixon himself had to admit that the erroneous, costly war in Viet Nam had resulted in a chaotic, rebellious climate in the Congress and a pandemonium in American political circles.

Nixon's office has not yet terminated. Yet what is taking place in the United States now is even worse than was complained by Nixon. The bitter realities in the United States today are obviously an indication of the initial bankruptcy of the "Nixon doctrine" which includes the "Vietnamization" strategy. How, and to what extent, the "Vietnamization" strategy has failed is a question of current interest, to which the best answer is an analysis of the utter defeat of the US-puppets in the recent 1970-1971 dry season.

STRATEGIC DEFEAT OF US "VIETNAMIZATION" STRATEGY IN THE 1970-1971 DRY SEASON

In the 1970-1971 dry season the US deployed on the battlefield 70 per cent of the puppet regular forces which had the direct co-operation of one-third of the US forces. This was the biggest effort ever made by the US-puppets in the period of the "Vietnamization" of the war. This was also the biggest military adventure of the US-puppets in the present strategic period.

Its purpose was:

— To win a pivotal military victory with the assumption that the powerful regular units of the liberation forces were a permanent threat to the "Vietnamization" strategy, and that only the destruction of the logistic supply system and the resistance bases of the liberation forces could weaken the latter and push them away from the areas in South Viet Nam where the "pacification" program was being executed.

— To ensure the sucess of all the three phases of the "rural pacification" and ensure at least two years of stability for the Saigon army and administration, while the US might be able to fly to the rescue of their henchmen in Laos and Cambodia then under the heavy pressure of the revolutionary forces. A success of this adventure would mean one for the experimentation with the policy of using the Saigon puppet army as the core for the expansion of the war to the whole of Indochina.

— The way Nixon saw it, a victory on the battlefield would provide him with a political prop at home to continue the "Nixon doctrine" and the "Vietnamization" program. Such a victory would be a proof of the success of the "Nixon doctrine" and the "Vietnamization" efforts. It would thus secure his victory in the 1972 presidential elections.

One has every reason, therefore, to conclude that the 1970-1971 was the most important experimentation with the "Vietnamization" strategy, a crucial test for the South Vietnamese people and armed forces, and the hardest confrontation between the regular liberation forces on the one hand and, on the other, the biggest forces of the Saigon regular army ever going into the field in the framework of the "Vietnamization" strategy with the support of the US in air forces, artillery and logistics. The adventure had been planned to perfection. Yet, the US-puppets had reckoned without the strength of revolutionary war, hence their heavy defeat on the battlefield.

The main strategic direction chosen by the US-puppets for their actions was Highway 9—Southern Laos into which were thrown over 30,000 men of the Saigon strategic mobile forces comprising elite divisions and most of units of the general strategic reserves. These forces were heavily equipped and had the backing of 15,000 standby American troops and maximum US air support. The revolutionary forces of Viet Nam and Laos, however, entirely upsed this ambitious operation of the enemy right at the start and, within a short time, inflicted on the enemy series of devastating blows, wiping out 3 regiments and 2 squadrons of armor, and 8 artillery battalions. A total of 22,400 enemy troops were killed or wounded and 1,000 others captured. The forces of Viet Nam and Laos also seized or destroyed 1,320 tanks and other military vehicles and 700 aircraft. The Highway 9—Southern Laos victory marked a bitter defeat and the continuous decline of both the US forces and the puppet army on the battlefield of South Viet Nam.

In northeastern Cambodia the US mustered the entire garrison of the 3rd Army Corps Area and part of that of the 4th Area, which had massive US air and fire support, into what they called Operation "Total Victory 1-71." This much-vaunted operation, nevertheless, ended in complete fiasco. One multibattalion unit and 18 battalions of infantry and one regiment and 6 squadrons of armor were destroyed, and over 20 other battalions heavily decimated. As many as 1770 tanks and other military vehicles were wrecked, and 120 aircraft shot down. As at the Highway 9-Southern Laos front, the initial arrogance of the troops of Saigon was quickly debunked. At the first shots they would run for their lives, abandoning even vehicles, big guns and whatever they could.

In South Viet Nam proper the people and the liberation forces closely co-operated with the patriots in Southern Laos and Northeastern Cambodia. They fought excellently in Highway 9-Khe Sanh, in Quang Tri — Thua Thien, in the 5th zone, on the High Plateaux, and a number of areas in the Mekong Delta, inflicting on the enemy nearly 80,000 casualties, thus forcing the premature end of the operation into the frontier area between South Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia. The liberation forces loosened to a great extent the enemy grip on vast areas in the plains and in the mountains, thereby gaining a considerably firm foot-hold and seriously foiling the "pacification" program of the enemy in many key areas. The same period saw an upsurge of the struggle of the patriots in the towns — the hideouts of the US-puppets which was centered on demands for welfare, democracy, the restoration of peace, the US withdrawal, the replacement of the despotic, ruthless Nguyen Van Thieu, etc. The result was a greater unrest in the enemy-held territory, a greater confusion among the Saigon administration whose members jumped at one another's throats in a frantic struggle for power.

IT is clear that, militarily, Nixon has sustained a very great defeat in his "Vietnamization" strategy. That defeat was a strategic one, as can be seen in the following:

First, the backbone of the "Vietnamization" strategy — the Saigon puppet army following the sledge-hammer blow given by the revolutionary forces, was on the verge of collapse.

PLAF pursuing the enemy troops

Organizationally, all the major mobile units of the puppet army are now under strength and had not yet recovered from the blow. The enemy cannot fill the gap in the regular army by "upgrading" the paramilitary forces because the latter themselves are in short supply. Neither can the enemy muster his mobile forces, for fear of the collapse of the "pacification" program.

As far as operational measures and tactics are concerned the formula of using Saigon infantry plus US fire power as the main force on the Indochinese battlefield has proved ineffective. Such vaunted tactics as "helicopter mobility," "hill-top enclaves," "entrenchment complex," and "armor assaults" in fact became the greatest disasters to the US-puppets.

By an irony of fate it is the general strategic reserves, the elite, the most important component of the Saigon puppet army that suffer the worst moral break down. Members of the "popular defence" are afraid of being upgraded to the "civil guard" forces while the latter hate to be sent as reinforcements to main-force units. Main force troops themselves dread being integrated into the general strategic reserves — the choice target of the liberation forces. Fear is ripe among the puppet army-fear of operations, fear of far-flung missions. It has become a general practice for puppet troops, even the "toughest" of them, to desert, to cause self-inflicted wounds, to just stay put behind the perimeter, or even to mutiny.

On the contrary, their adversary—the revolutionary forces of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia—have never been in better form, the 1970-1971 dry season has proved the possibility for them to annihilate enemy main forces *en masse*. It has also opened practical possibilities for us to destroy the Saigon main force army and worst Nixon "Vietnamization" strategy militarily.

Second, the US-puppets are also losing in the "rural pacification." They have now to scrape the cupboard for enough troops to cope with the guerilla warfare raging right in areas claimed to be "completely pacified."

The fact is that in many areas people's war is developing too strongly for the civil-guards and security forces, and even regular units of the enemy to deal with. These so-called "territorial forces," indeed, had seriously weakened even before the 1970-1971 dry season, because a great part of them has been sucked into the operations in Highway 9-Southern Laos area and in Northeastern Cambodia. The strain on them now is even greater since it falls on them to replenish the understrength main force divisions. Obviously, it is impossible for the enemy to protect his face without exposing his abdomen. Just now he has to send post-haste a number of main force units as "fire brigades" to the countryside to salvage the "pacification" program, thereby reducing to a great extent his ability to provide this program with an outer perimetre defence comprising mobile units. That's not all. Another threat to the "Vietnamization" strategy has loomed large in the form of a violent popular struggle in the town with varied actions, concrete objectives and appropriate slogans.

Third, the US military situation in Indochina has worsened a great deal since the end of the 1970-1971 dry season. The puppets in Laos have seriously weakened since 1970, having lost many strategic foot-holds in both Northern and Southern Laos, especially on the Bolovens Plateaux which the US-puppets have failed again and again to recover. Vang Pao bandit forces have taken serious losses, and Thai mercenaries have proved to be a hardly reliable support for the Lao puppets. In Vientiane US-paid lackeys in the puppet administration are seeking to oust one another from power. Meanwhile, the Lao patriotic forces have become a great deal stronger in every respect.

In Cambodia, Lon Nol and Sirik Matak do not fare better than their colleagues in Vientiane.

Lon Nol is reacting weakly to the mounting military pressure from the Cambodian people and liberation forces. His forces being limited and spread thin he can react only in a passive manner. As for the Saigon puppets now hardly able to protect themselves, it is highly unlikely that they would again sally forth to the rescue of their "neighbour."

What has become clear so far is that all the US-puppets' calculations for the 1970-1971 dry season were upset.

a) The enemy sought to beef up the Saigon army to make of it a reliable strategic force to replace the US forces. This puppet army, however, has not yet recovered from the serious beating it has taken.

b) The enemy tried to weaken the adversary main force by holding them at a respectable distance and depriving them of supply lines. The latter, however, coming out of the dry season as the victor, are stronger than ever.

c) The enemy strove to secure a relative stability to complete the "pacification" program the result of which is open to question. Such a stability, however, remains a dream and the success of the "pacification" program is more remote than ever, so that a warning has been given by even the most optimistic minds in the enemy camp.

d) The enemy wanted to improve the image of the Saigon puppet administration and prove to the American people and the world peoples the success of the "Vietnamization" policy. The only thing they get, however, is a more corrupted puppet administration and more vehement public condemnation of the "Vietnamization" program and the "Nixon doctrine" as a whole.

(To be continued)

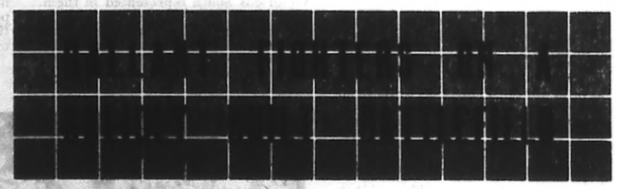
THE 1971 Congress of East Nam Bo—Saigon PLAF Heroes and Emulation Fighters wound up on September 23, 1971 at 5 p.m, in a locality not far from Saigon. In a cheerful atmosphere, the delegates parted with the promise that they would achieve more feats.

Coming from various parts of the Saigon front, even from the city itself, they had reported on the outstanding deeds performed in the past twelve months by their units, localities or themselves.

The meeting which was a great display of strength marked a new blossoming of the revolutionary heroism of the East Nam Bo—Saigon people in the initial stage of bankruptcy of US "Vietnamization."

East Nam Bo is a most important strategic area capable of exerting a great impact on the Saigon-Gia Dinh battlefield. In fact, even on the front north and northwest of Saigon defended by big contingents of enemy troops and ploughed by bombs and shells, the East Nam Bo—Saigon fighters have fought fierce and highly successful battles. That front has become the graveyard of crack units of the US and Saigon armies, the burying place of major enemy operation and the vantage ground for the revolution in South Viet Nam. In order to gradually break through the enemy defence line and foil his "pacification" plan, the local PLAF have braved great difficulties to preserve the revolutionary bases so fiercely mopped up by the enemy, to steadily develop the revolutionary force, push up the "destroy strategic hamlets" movement, shatter the client administration in heavily populated areas, along communication lines and around urban centres, and keep up guerilla warfare even in and around the big city.

Since early this year, the East Nam Bo-Saigon battlefield has undergone a notable change. The enemy has used a huge force to drive the hostilities far from the city but to no avail. The repeated attacks made by the Liberation Armed Forces have thwarted large scale adverse operations chiefly northwest of Saigon, wiping out many battalions, even a regiment and a mobile battalion-group, destroying considerable war means and capturing many prisoners and a big quantity of weapons.



Attending the Congress were fighters representing the units which had distinguished themselves in various parts of the East Nam Bo—Saigon front. Valiant combatants on a murderous battlefield, they had set bright examples of revolutionary heroism.

Represented at the assembly were the PLAF infantry units having worsted the enemy on various terrains with versatile tactics; the artillery company which had clung for 750 days running to a battlefield constantly raided by the enemy but had remarkably fulfilled its mission, the transport battalions, field hospitals, the units having rendered signal services in combat support, in self-defence and in the protection of public property.

Present at the meeting were also gallant and resourceful fighters who had discharged their tasks through thick and thin; the valiant guerillas who had held on to their villages to protect the inhabitants, build resistance bases, develop guerilla warfare, and resolutely foil the enemy "pacification" program.

Attending the gathering were combatants who, within fifteen days had achieved two brilliants exploits by destroying tens of thousands of tons of ammunition in the vicinity of Saigon or sending to the bottom of the Saigon river ten-thousand ton ships; an army workshop worker who, in two years, had blasted 75 military vehicles, mostly armoured, with mines made by himself; a nurse who had tended wounded soldiers for 8 months on end under violent bombings; a girl guerilla who, fighting behind the enemy's lines for two years, had carried through all her tasks against overwhelming odds.

Each exploit glorified at the Congress was a splendid flower in the East Nam Bo garden epitomizing the combativeness and indomitable spirit of the people of the *Brass Wall*.

The brilliant success of the Congress has given a strong fillip to the guerillas in Eastern Nam Bo to fight more stubbornly to cross the vicious designs of the enemy and contribute to the total collapse of their "Vietnamisation."

THANH HONG

PLAF crossing the river

Liberation Painting and its Promising Debut

THE "civil guard" post and seat of the quislings at Hanh Thong Tay village, Eastern Nam Bo were forced to surrender, then levelled off by local Liberation troops. Three days after, at their emplacement were displayed the works of artists Co Tan Long Chau and Le Lam, exhibits of a "roving" exhibition of paintings. The room was barely 100 square metres large and the more than 100 sketches shown there dealt with such themes as: anti-US resistance, liberation of the South, national reunification.

The exhibition which lasted only 5 days drew thousands of visitors from among peasants, civil servants, armymen, students and youths.

Here are some remarks recorded by them in the visitors' book:

"Very truthful pictures of both the people and the land. I hope there is no difficulty to this exhibition being extended for some days: more people would be able to come — and to come several times. They will draw fresh strength for the anti-US, patriotic resistance and national construction."

(a village elderly)

"What likeness! I thought I had before me real uncles and aunts — guerillas and armymen — I had met. I do like these portraits. If they were displayed right at my school, my little friends would all make replicas of them. We all like to learn drawing and to look at paintings."

(Nga, a second-grade school girl)

"I propose that this display be shown to the various units of the liberation army after it is closed here. The PLAF men indeed have little time to spare and they cannot visit the exhibition while it is open to the public. One should devise ways to preserve all these works of art even in war conditions."

(an officer of the Liberation Army)

THE roving exhibition referred to above took place five years ago in Spring together with others in the free areas along the Tien Giang, Hau Giang (Nam Bo), Tra Khuc, Thu Bon, Song Huong, Thanh Han (Trung Bo) rivers or next to the dense *Xa nu Kina* forests of the Highlands under the large roofs of ethnic minorities' house. The works of such artists as Co Tan Long Chau, Le Lam, Le Van Chuong, Huynh Phuong Dong, Thai Ha, Hong Hai, Duc Don, Hong Chinh Hien, Nguyen Vinh Nguyen, Ai Nhi, Viet Son, Dang Quy Quyen, etc, known and loved by the masses, were hung beside those of the younger generation — students of Liberation Fine Arts Schools who, immediately after their graduation, carried their easels here and there to draw, paint, carve, organize exhibition of paintings and statues to use their arts and urge the people to persevere in, and step up, the patriotic resistance.

It all began with some drawings for propaganda purpose and now we have thousands of sketches, wood-cuts, oil paintings... of all sizes, created with all sorts of materials and in all forms of art. The quasi-totality of works are possessed of a sound content and reflect the personality of their creators. The most outstanding form, which may be considered the main form of Liberation art, is undoubtedly the "anti-US" sketch. It is rich in sentiment and depicts life in such a way as to give the spectator a rousing inspiration.

The growth of Liberation painting takes on a deeper meaning as painters, just like all other workers in literature and arts, have to live and to fight in extremely hard conditions. They are short of everything, including materials and means for their creation. It is this life of hardships which permeates their sketches, drawings and paintings; one may feel in their works a sense of victory, some sort of candour and a fervid love for life. The lines and masses of each one of them reflect the artist's emotion in face of the heroic deeds of their revolutionary people and his implacable hatred for the enemy. What is obvious in the "anti-US" sketches is above all an expression of revolutionary optimism through the people and scenes of the fighting and victorious South represented in them.

Here are thick jungles, limpid streams, rolling mountains, small sampans conveying guerillas and militants on arroyos. Here are village schools, night classes mushrooming everywhere. Ap Bac after liberation with its newly-built school half hidden under a cool vault of foliage, next to a road newly repaired crowded with pedestrians. A mat-manufacturing cooperative in the making. Liberated Nhi Binh village and its bustle and merriness, Cho Thom landing-stage with its boats and sampans, carts and vehicles and its nascent street bordered by sundries' shops. And shelters at night, scenes of digging undergrounds, Tets spent in forest, the performance of a dance and song ensemble to hail a victory... Taken all together, these sketches will make a comprehensive picture of the life of the anti-US resistance,— hectic, inspiring, at once heroic and poetic. A life just normal, but indeed fine, forceful, with a pervading sense of humanism and patriotism.

A rear battlefield

wood-cut by **Ai Nhi**

The portraits drawn by Liberation artists who live in the midst of fellow-countrymen and comrades are often creations of great originality. They may represent typical personalities - an elderly lady of the South, a woman guerilla, a PLAF man, a messenger. They may depict some man or woman: outstanding fighter Nam Lun of An Nhon Tay who in 10 minutes knocked down 7 US armoured cars; little Vo Van Men, 13, famous for having killed 75 US-Saigon men in 8 engagements; fighter Phan Thi Xuan, of Ben Tre who confronted the enemy as often as 654 times; Dinh Van Kien who destroyed 5 US tanks in the Bau Bang battle with only 5 shots; Mme Muoi of Long An who 55 times saved political cadres from the enemy grip; old Bay Nham whose 7 sons all enlisted in the army, etc. In simple strokes, the artists pictured the new man of South Viet Nam growing through the fire of war, full of energy and determination, with eyes shining with hatred for the enemy and a will to secure victory.

A fact is brought out by the works of Liberation painters: their authors never depart with the realities of the fighting and production in various areas. They are present with marching troops, in the frontline, on the "anti-US belt" in the vast free zone throbbing with a new life under revolutionary power. The visitor will be struck with emotion before the effervescent preparations for a battle, the dedication of old women and young girls, torches in hand, "going on political demonstrations," the ardour of Cu Chi guerillas with B.40 on their shoulders, ready to charge the enemy.

The paintings and drawings produced at the time of the general offensives and concerted uprisings (Spring 68) and of the battles of Highway 9 and Khe Sanh are vivid records of dramatic events in the history of the revolution in South Viet Nam.

An atmosphere of victorious struggle pervades Liberation paintings and drawings in a most forceful way. It would be impossible for the artists to impart this feeling to the spectator were they not immersed in the exciting life of the nation and the epoch.

The great realities of South Viet Nam's revolution have been supplying liberation painting with abundant themes. Though young, this art enjoys every facility for future blossoming.

October, 1971
TRANG PHUONG

A Well-organized Liberated Village

H.P. is a village in the liberated area of Huong Hoa district, Quang Tri province. It was often attacked by US Saigon planes which dropped bombs, doused toxic chemicals, set houses afire, destroyed orchards and devastated fields. A few people had therefore to leave their homes to earn a living elsewhere.

But most of cadres and people thought that "to abandon one's village and one's fields is to bow to the American aggressors." So they stuck to their native place, filled up bomb-craters, tilled the fields, grew crops on hills, always prepared to fight back enemy planes. At the same time, they kept on digging shelters, trenches, and rebuilding destroyed houses. In face of this stamina, the evacuees came back one after another.

Now, H.P. is a merry and bustling village with houses above the ground under big trees or under the ground in the open. Every house has its air and artillery shelter. All of them are roomy and well-ventilated. Most of the youths of both sexes are guerillas active in both combat and production. The whole population is ready to cope with any war emergency.

Many mutual aid teams have been established. Working collectively under technicians' guidance, the peasants zealously do farming. For many years, H.P. has given a good account of itself in Huong Hoa both in crop-raising and fighting.

At present, each family rears from 3 to 5 porkers, 1 to 2 cows, and many fowls. Many people have learnt to be blacksmiths so that they can make knives and pick-axes from bomb splinters and empty shells, or grenades and mines from duds.

The village has several primary classes attended by children coming from many trenches around morning and afternoon. At night, the population flock to underground halls do discuss production and fighting. In starlight nights or festival-days, children gather around their teachers to learn dancing and singing...

Despite US-Saigon continual attacks, production is pushed up and much food contributed to the resistance war. H.P. is also the first village in terms of the number of youths enlisted in the armed forces.

With a firm belief in the triumph of the revolution, the population of H.P. village are making big strides ahead on the path of patriotic resistance against US aggression.

CNLAF New Military Gain on the Stung Sen River

ON September 24 and 29, the Cambodian National Liberation Armed Forces sank or set afire 24 military boats and killed or captured more than 400 adverse troops in a well-laid ambush on the Stung Sen River, *AKI* reported.

Violent assaults were mounted on enemy military communication lines, intercepting the reinforcements of Phnom Penh troops seriously bogged down in Operation "Tchenla II." Crushing blows were also dealt at enemy facilities and military administration, causing more difficulties to the US imperialists and their stooges in Cambodia, and aggravating their situation.

Together with their successes on the Mekong and Stung Chinit Rivers previously, the Stung Sen River coup illustrated the CNLAF higher combat efficency on waterways. With such relentless and damaging actions on the same river portion in a strongly-defended region, the Cambodian patriotic forces have shown their firmness of purpose, effective fighting methods and devastating technique in surprise attacks. Especially in the September 29 engagement, the CNLAF men mounted a several-prong assault on the enemy convoy on a large portion of the river, destroying many boats loaded with supplies and seriously battering the reinforcements.

The US imperialists and their lackeys mobilized more than 70 battalions of Phnom Penh troops in Operation "Tchenla II" with strong US air support including B-52s'. But since August 20, the enemy had been badly mauled by the Cambodian people and armed forces. According to *UPI* on September 30, the adversary not only failed in their attempt to clear Highway 6 and rescue their mates besieged in Kompong Thom, but also it had to pay a dear price for the said operation.

With closely co-ordinated enveloping actions on enemy positions, by beating off their fierce counter-attacks on waterways and highways, the three armed services of the CNLAF have driven the enemy everywhere onto the defensive. As their communication lines were cut, their air routes threatened, the enemy had to make use of the waterways to move reinforcements and supplies. They came under constant fire on the Stung Chinit and Stung Sen Rivers. As a result, the morale of over 10,000 Phnom Penh troops pinned down on the Highway 6 and Kompong Thom battlefields has been on the downgrade despite US air support.

A Cambodian NLAF unit receiving marching orders

The NLAF fresh achievements and those scored recently at Srang, Vihear Suor, Kompong Thmar, Bos Khnor, Prek Thnots Krek, Ampuk, Phnom Penh... have supplied ample proof of their position of strength. There is every likelihood that the latter will be enhanced and that Operation "Tchenla II" will be completely frustrated.

HOANG SON

A new advance in the GI war protest

AN important war protest action by GIs has recently taken place on the South Viet Nam battlefield: A whole company of Cavalry Division One, stationed at "Pace" artillery position near the Cambodian border, about 100km North West of Saigon, disobeyed marching orders. They overtly declared their flat refusal of such a dangerous and senseless forcible violation of the Cambodian territory. The war resisters also requested American journalist Richard Boyle, correspondent of *Rampart*, to forward to Senator Edward Kennedy a protest letter and a tape recording.

On October 11, Senator E. Kennedy called for a thorough investigation into this anti-war action. Well-known anti-war artiste Jane Fonda also stated that she was very encouraged, and described it as a move helpful to bring an end to the war.

The "Pace" incident was a new indication of GI ever growing abhorence of the war. Forced to serve as tools for the aggressive policy of the US warmongers whose representatives are the Nixon ruling circles, the American troops who have been daily indulging in bloody crimes, have realized better than anyone else the vicious and unpalatable nature of this war.

By opposing war, they want to tell the US authorities in the face that they are determined not to cheaply sell their lives in the US warmongers' selfish interests, in an unjust war which is damaging US prestige and weakening their country in every respect. They synchronize their anti-war voices and acts with the war protest movement now surging up among other sections of the American people, the immediate objective of which is a total and prompt pull-out of the US expeditionary troops.

As people in close touch with combat realities, they see better than anybody else through Nixon's pious promise to end the war, and realize that, instead of leading the US into a new period of prosperity without war, Nixon is driving it deeper into the war swamp. They know that with his policy of aggression and extremely bellicose attitude, the US President is the only responsible for the current US economic, political and social crisis, and that only by ending the Viet Nam war can the US get out of its predicament.

In the recent past, the GI anti-war movement has been ceaselessly spreading far and wide. These were the August 1 war-protest march by US airforce men stationed in Great Britain, the August 10 anti-war meeting by airforce men at Mountain Home airbase, Idaho, the September 2 anti-war letter from 200 men of airborne Brigade 173 to US Defense Secretary Melvin Laird when he came to welcome this unit back from South Viet Nam, and the deliberate desertion on October 1 of 9 US marines from the aircraft-carrier "Constellation," who sought asylum in a church upon learning of the US government's decision to despatch her back again to Viet Nam. At a press conference on October 11 in Alameda port city, California, 11 seamen of the aircraft-carrier "Coral Sea" announced that 1,000 of their mates aboard this battleship had signed in a petition urging the US Congress to take measures forbidding the Nixon administration to send it back to Viet Nam. The said war-protesters further pointed out that 35 other seamen on board the same aircraft-carrier had decided to go awol when it was to leave Alameda port on November 12.

In South Viet Nam, many GIs when going out disregard their superiors' orders and fold up their M-16s as a war dissenting sign.

The anti-war feeling has become widespread not only among American armymen but also among officers, such as David H. Hackworth, an army colonel who fought in South Viet Nam for several years and has been awarded most medals among the officers of the same grade, and retired Major-General James Gavin so far praised by US press as a strategist, a diplomatist, a military organiser and researcher...

About the GI anti-war spirit, the US Defense Department had to admit the following official statistics: In 1970, there occured 209 cases of American servicemen using bombs or hand grenades against their C.D.s twice as many as in 1969. Also in 1970, the number of US deserters rose to 65,643, or the strength of 4 infantry divisions and four times bigger than the 1966 figure (US weekly *The Guardian*).

The gloomy picture of the GIs' serious downgrading morale has been described by Colonel Robert Heint in his appraisal following an inspection tour of US military bases as follows: The American troops' sense of discipline and fighting spirit are the lowest and worst in this century and possibly in US history. The GIs still in Viet Nam are near disintegration. As for officers and non-commissioned officers, if not induced into mutiny, they are marijuana smokers and feel greatly discouraged.

The widespread anti-war movement in the US army is an evident outcome of the Nixon ruling circles' policy of aggression. So long as they stubbornly prolong and expand the aggressive war, they cannot stop the shameful crumbling of the US army and stem the American people's stirring anti-war movement.

The behaviour of the men of Cavalry Division One in South Viet Nam is a sign heralding new waves of anti-war agitation in the US army and a confirmation of Senator McGovern's declarations during his recent trip to South Viet Nam. At a press conference he said that if US forces were not withdrawn quickly from Viet Nam, "we shall see a further military, political and moral debacle." He termed the "Vietnamization" policy "a bandage on a malignant cancer that is disrupting the Vietnamese society, demoralizing the American army and weakening America both at home and around the world."

Longing for home

THE THIRD WORLD IN EFFERVESCENCE

o Recently, thousands of **South Korean** school youths held demonstrations and meetings against the militarization of schools and the corruption of the Pak Jung Hi administration. The students of Seoul National University organized a ceremony to cast off their military training uniforms; those of Sogangjesuit University of Seoul fought back the policemen called in against them.

—Many Catholics at Vonyu including twenty priests and thirty nuns joined the students in their action, scoring the Pak Jung Hi clique of traitors for using the students as cannon-fodder for the US.

o In a *daring coup de main* at Tarlac on October 1 against a posse of policemen, Philipino guerillas caused 5 casualties including two officers.

— Many demonstrations against the fascist dictatorial regime of President Marcos took place on October 1,5 and 12 in Manila and other cities of the **Philippines Islands.**

o Between August 26 and September 21, the **Thai** patriotic armed forces attacked the policemen and soldiers in the provinces of Surat, Thani, Siengrai, Pitsanoulok, killing 30 of them, downing an aircraft and setting fire to many military posts.

o On October 1, 1971, spirited demonstrations flared up in all towns and cities of the Democratic People's Republic of **Yemen** against the US imperialists and their local agents for having blown a motor car carrying health personnel (September 26).

o From September 15 to 27, the **Palestinian** guerillas fought 17 battles against the Israeli aggressors at Gaza, the Golan plateaux, the Sinai peninsula during which 3 motor boats were sunk, one bridge blown up, 9 vehicles destroyed and many enemy men wiped out.

Previously, on August 14, over 20,000 workers at Gaza town occupied by the Israeli troops, staged a strike against the harsh measures taken by the aggressors against the Palestinian people.

o In protest against the visit of US Vice President Agnew to Turkey on October 11, the anti-US Turks hurled two satchel charges at the US consulate general in Istambul, bringing to a standstill its activity for a whole day.

o Between early June and end July 1971, the **Angolese** guerillas hit hard at the enemy in the provinces of Moxico, Cuando, Cubango, wiping out 30 Portuguese soldiers and injuring many others, and flattened two military training centres.

o In July and August 1971, the patriotic armed forces of **Port Guinea** made 144 raids on Bissau, capital city, and others urban centres, putting out of action 149 Portuguese troops, wrecking 21 military vehicles and sinking 6 vessels and combat launches. In the onset against Gabu, they overran 8 paratroops' barracks and killed many enemy soldiers.

o On October 11, nearly one hundred thousand people demonstrated in the capital of **Panama** against the occupation of the Panama canal area by the Yankees and claimed full sovereignty for Panama over the area. At the meeting, the C.i.C of the Panama army said: "6000 rifles of the Panamaian troops in the area are ready to defend the territorial integrity, honour and people of Panama."

THE AMERICAN PEOPLE'S FALL OFFENSIVE

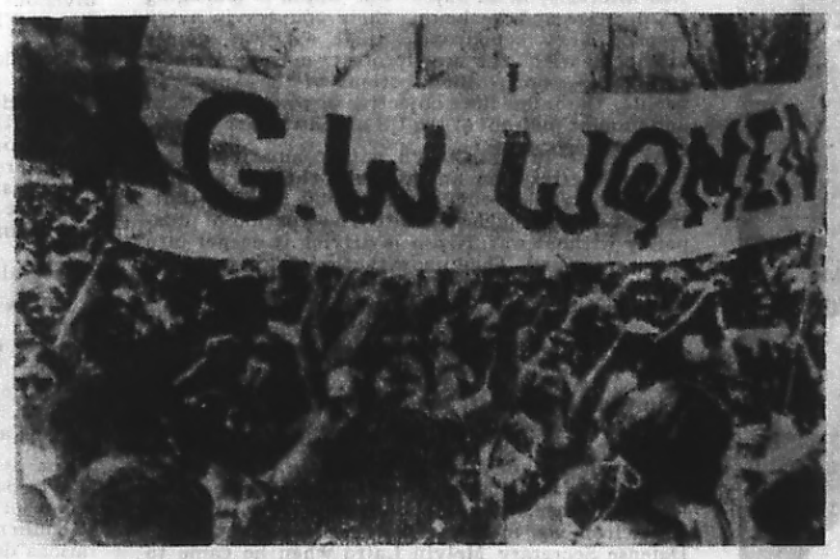
Meetings, demonstrations and other actions for an end to the aggressive war in Viet Nam broke out across America on October 13, "the National Moratorium" day initiating the 1971 fall offensive of the American people. Tens of thousands of people comprising youths, students, women, clergymen, politicians and scientists, etc... turned out in the streets. Significantly trade union organizations took an active part in the first drive scheduled to last 3 weeks.

In Washington from October 13 noon to midnight, demonstrations and meetings took place in front of the White House and the US Capitol. The protesters carried posters protesting Nixon's aggressive policy and demanding the pullout of all GIs from South Viet Nam. US Congressmen R. Dellums, B. Abzug, Jarvis Tyner, President of the Young Workers' Liberation Coalition and the representatives of trade union and mass organizations together with the people of all walks of life marched to the meeting place. Representative of *The Women for Peace* Ruth Geiner pointed out that for Washington, the only way to cease the Viet Nam war is the RSVN PRG's 7-point proposal. The same day a *Committee for an end to the War in Indochina* just set up in Washington by well-known personalities' among them were Nobel Prize winner L. Paulin and leader of Auto Manifacture's Trade Union Victor Reuther held a press conference, to urge the US government to set a deadline for the withdrawal of all US troops from Indochina.

In New York, 25 labour unions sponsored a big rally which drew more than 3,000 people. At this rally, New York Mayor John V. Lindsay vigorously condemned the US war of aggression in Viet Nam and called upon the American people to continue pressuring Nixon into pulling immediate end to the war. David Livingstone, a Trade Union leader, said that the rally marked the beginning of labour's participation in the fight to end the war, and wage freeze and to get jobs for all Americans.

In Ann Arbor, Portland, Seattle, Boston, Chicago, Philadelphia, San Francisco etc... thousands of people staged demonstrations and held meetings in front of the local administrations and various places in the hearts of the cities in protest against the US government's obdurate prolongation of the aggressive war in Indochina. Seattle Mayor declared participation in, and support for, the meetings and regarded November 6 next as action day for peace in Viet Nam.

In New Mexico, students organized a vigil and a fast to prevail on the US rulers to restore early peace in Viet Nam and Indochina.



Anti-war American women demonstrating

USSR–ALGERIA

A Soviet-Algerian joint communique made public on October 8 at the close of the visit of Chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers A.N. Kosygin strongly condemned US aggression in Indochina and reiterated full and unconditional support for the three Indochinese peoples' resistance against US aggressors, for national salvation.

CUBA

The 2nd International get-together was held in Havana from October 15 to 17 by the winning groups of the "Know Indochina" competitions.

SWEDEN

The Swedish people's "Viet Nam Solidarity Week" ended on October 9 with the large-scale demonstrations in Stockholm, Uppsala, Boras etc... Tens of thousands of people took the streets, carrying flags of the RSVN, burning US and Saigon flags, shouting slogans supporting Viet Nam and demanding the immediate withdrawal of all GIs from Indochina.

FRANCE

The French National Council of Peace Movements' meeting held in Paris from October 9 to 10, passed a resolution on Indochina launching a nation-wide campaign for information and actions which the "Days for Indochina" would be organized in all villages and districts, factories and universities etc with a view of reiterating permanently the French people's support for the three Indochinese peoples' struggle.

AMERICA

At a press conference held on October 7 in front of the US Ministry of Justice in Washington, Mr. Renny Davis and Mr. Dave Dellinger, American leaders of the Viet Nam antiwar movement announced that from October 22 to 25 a people's tribunal would be staged in Washington to investigate the US ruling circle's reactionary home and foreign policy particularly Nixon's policy in Viet Nam and several serious internal problems of the US.

The "People Coalition for Peace and Justice" approved an appeal to the American people to march on the American Veterans' Traditional Festival, October 25, to Washington to participate in the demonstrations against the US aggressive war in Viet Nam. And the "National Action Coalition for Peace" would organize on the next day (October 26) parades and mass rallies.

A petition signed by 1,000 creumen of the US aircraft carrier Coral Sea was just handed to the US Congress pressing for measures to prevent Nixon from sending back the ship to Viet Nam on combat mission. 400 American men stationed in South Viet Nam also sent a petition to the US Congress and government demanding for an end to all wars in South East Asia and fix an early deadline for the repatriation of all GIs from South Viet Nam.

A group of well-known comprising Actors and Actresses Dick Gregory, Jane Fonda, Donald Sutherland, Howard Levy... stated that they would make a tour this winter in South East Asia to give an impulse to the GI antiwar drive protest, and demanded the US government to end the aggressive war.

SOUTH VIET NAM CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE SOUTH VIET NAM NATIONAL FRONT FOR LIBERATION